EST ENGLISH CONVENTION PRACTICE

40-Question Subject-Verb Agreement Diagnostic Test

Test: EST I Writing & Language **Topic:** Subject-Verb Agreement **Total Items:** 40 Questions

PART I: PRACTICE QUESTIONS

1. The intricate details on the ancient pottery found near the Nile River **reveals** key insights into early agricultural techniques.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) reveal
(C) has revealed
(D) is revealing

2. Neither the chief architect nor the project engineers **was** prepared for the sudden weather change.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) is
(C) were
(D) has been

3. High up in the mountains of Sinai **stands** three ancient monastery towers.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) stand
(C) is standing
(D) has stood

4. Each of the research papers submitted to the committee **require** rigorous peer review.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) requires
(C) are requiring
(D) have required

5. Some of the water from the reservoirs **were** diverted to nearby farming communities.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) was
(C) are
(D) have been

6. The committee **meets** every Monday morning to review regional energy consumption.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) meet
(C) are meeting
(D) have met

7. Analyzing huge datasets from deep space telescopes **demands** advanced computational power.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) demand
(C) are demanding
(D) have demanded

8. Dr. Aris, along with her assistant research assistants, **have** presented the findings at the conference.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) are presenting
(C) has
(D) were

9. She is one of those dedicated scientists who **spends** long hours in the laboratory.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) spend
(C) is spending
(D) has spent

10. There **is** several unexpected challenges associated with deep-sea drilling projects.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) are
(C) was
(D) has been

11. The expansion of renewable energy markets **accelerate** economic growth in developing regions.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) accelerates
(C) have accelerated
(D) are accelerating

12. Either the professor or his students **organizes** the annual chemistry symposium.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) organize
(C) is organizing
(D) has organized

13. Every member of the board and all executive directors **is** required to sign the disclosure agreement.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) are
(C) was
(D) has been

14. None of the ancient scroll manuscripts **was** damaged during the museum flood.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) were
(C) is
(D) has been

15. On the desk behind the administrative offices **lay** several unread manuscripts.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) lies
(C) is lying
(D) has lain

16. Both the software developer and the digital designer **has** contributed to the user interface.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) have
(C) is having
(D) was

17. A series of workshops on climate adaptation **were** scheduled for next month.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) was
(C) are
(D) have been

18. Neither of the proposed highway routes **seem** suitable for urban traffic expansion.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) seems
(C) are seeming
(D) have seemed

19. The discovery of new genetic markers **allow** physicians to personalize treatments.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) allows
(C) have allowed
(D) are allowing

20. Under the shade of ancient olive trees **sits** three local elders discussing village history.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) sit
(C) is sitting
(D) has sat

21. Most of the soil in the delta region **contain** rich organic nutrients suitable for agriculture.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) contains
(C) are containing
(D) have contained

22. The faculty **is** divided in their opinions regarding the proposed curriculum changes.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) are
(C) has been
(D) was

23. Writing complex algorithms **require** patience and meticulous attention to detail.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) requires
(C) are requiring
(D) have required

24. Mayor Sanders, as well as several city council members, **support** the public transit initiative.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) supports
(C) are supporting
(D) have supported

25. He is the only one of the applicants who **have** passed all three certification exams.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) has
(C) are passing
(D) pass

26. There **has been** several reported sightings of rare migratory birds near the lake.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) have been
(C) was
(D) is

27. The speed of light through various transparent materials **vary** depending on density.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) varies
(C) are varying
(D) have varied

28. Neither the team captain nor the players **was** satisfied with the final score.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) were
(C) is
(D) has been

29. Everyone participating in the regional science fair **receive** a certificate of achievement.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) receives
(C) are receiving
(D) have received

30. All of the information provided in these historical archives **are** verified by scholars.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) is
(C) have been
(D) were

31. The flock of wild geese **fly** south across the river every autumn.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) flies
(C) are flying
(D) have flown

32. Managing international supply chains **involve** complex logistics and coordination.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) involves
(C) are involving
(D) have involved

33. The lead investigator, accompanied by two lab assistants, **examine** the ancient artifacts.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) examines
(C) are examining
(D) have examined

34. Mathematics **are** often considered the foundational language of theoretical physics.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) is
(C) have been
(D) were

35. Either the supervisor or the technicians **is** responsible for calibrating the sensors.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) are
(C) was
(D) has been

36. Many of the restored artifacts **belongs** to the permanent collection.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) belong
(C) is belonging
(D) has belonged

37. Beside the ancient temple walls **grows** several rare species of desert orchids.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) grow
(C) is growing
(D) has grown

38. The jury **have** reached a unanimous verdict after three days of deliberations.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) has
(C) are reaching
(D) were

39. Developing new renewable energy technologies **<u>require</u>** substantial financial investments.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) requires
(C) are requiring
(D) have required

40. Every boy and girl in the summer camp **<u>were</u>** given a commemorative badge.

(A) NO CHANGE
(B) was
(C) are
(D) have been

PART II: ANSWER KEY & EXPLANATIONS

1. Correct Answer: (B) reveal Intervening Phrase

Subject is *details* (plural). Cross out prepositional phrases: *[of the ancient pottery] [found near the Nile River]*. Plural subject requires plural verb **reveal**.

2. Correct Answer: (C) were Neither...Nor Rule

When subjects are joined by *neither...nor*, the verb agrees with the subject closest to it. *engineers* (plural) takes **were**.

3. Correct Answer: (B) stand Inverted Sentence

Inverted sentence starting with prepositional phrase. The subject comes after: *three ancient monastery towers* (plural). Plural verb **stand** is required.

4. Correct Answer: (B) requires Indefinite Pronoun

Each is always singular. Ignore prepositional phrase *[of the research papers]*. Singular subject requires **requires**.

5. Correct Answer: (B) was SANAM Pronoun

Some depends on object of preposition. *water* is an uncountable singular noun, so verb must be singular **was**.

6. Correct Answer: (A) NO CHANGE Collective Noun

committee acts as a single unified unit, so it takes singular verb **meets**.

7. Correct Answer: (A) NO CHANGE Gerund Subject

Gerund phrase *Analyzing huge datasets...* acts as a singular subject, requiring singular verb **demands**.

8. Correct Answer: (C) has Additive Phrase

Phrases like *along with...* are not additive conjunctions like 'and'. Subject is singular *Dr. Aris*, requiring **has**.

9. Correct Answer: (B) spend One of Those...Who

In the pattern "one of those [plural noun] who [verb]", relative pronoun *who* refers to plural noun *scientists*, requiring plural verb **spend**.

10. Correct Answer: (B) are There Is/Are

True subject follows the verb: *several unexpected challenges* (plural), requiring plural verb **are**.

11. Correct Answer: (B) accelerates Intervening Phrase

Subject is *expansion* (singular). Cross out *[of renewable energy markets]*. Singular subject requires **accelerates**.

12. Correct Answer: (B) organize Either...Or Rule

Verb agrees with closest subject: *students* (plural). Plural verb **organize** is correct.

13. Correct Answer: (B) are Compound Subject

Subject consists of multiple entities joined by 'and', requiring plural verb **are**.

14. Correct Answer: (B) were SANAM Pronoun

None refers to plural noun *manuscripts*, requiring plural verb **were**.

15. Correct Answer: (A) NO CHANGE Inverted Sentence

Inverted sentence. True subject is *several unread manuscripts* (plural), requiring plural verb **lay** (present tense plural of lie).

16. Correct Answer: (B) have Compound Subject

Two subjects joined by 'and' form a plural compound subject, requiring **have**.

17. Correct Answer: (B) was Collective Group

Subject is *series* (singular). Ignore *[of workshops]*. Takes singular verb **was**.

18. Correct Answer: (B) seems Indefinite Pronoun

Neither is singular. Requires singular verb **seems**.

19. Correct Answer: (B) allows Intervening Phrase

Subject is *discovery* (singular). Cross out *[of new genetic markers]*. Requires **allows**.

20. Correct Answer: (B) sit Inverted Sentence

Inverted sentence. Subject is *three local elders* (plural), requiring plural verb **sit**.

21. Correct Answer: (B) contains SANAM Pronoun

Most refers to uncountable noun *soil* (singular), requiring singular verb **contains**.

22. Correct Answer: (B) are Collective Noun (Individual Action)

When collective noun members act individually (indicated by "their opinions"), use plural verb **are**.

23. Correct Answer: (B) requires Gerund Subject

Gerund phrase *Writing complex algorithms* is singular, requiring **requires**.

24. Correct Answer: (B) supports Additive Phrase

as well as... does not make subject plural. Subject is *Mayor Sanders* (singular), requiring **supports**.

25. Correct Answer: (B) has The Only One Of...

"The only one of [plural noun] who" takes a singular verb matching "the only one". Requires **has**.

26. Correct Answer: (B) have been There Is/Are

True subject is *several reported sightings* (plural), requiring plural verb **have been**.

27. Correct Answer: (B) varies Intervening Phrase

Subject is *speed* (singular). Cross out prepositional phrases. Requires **varies**.

28. Correct Answer: (B) were Neither...Nor Rule

Verb agrees with closest subject *players* (plural), requiring **were**.

29. Correct Answer: (B) receives Indefinite Pronoun

Everyone is singular, requiring **receives**.

30. Correct Answer: (B) is SANAM Pronoun

All refers to uncountable noun *information* (singular), requiring **is**.

31. Correct Answer: (B) flies Collective Group

Subject is *flock* (singular collective noun), requiring **flies**.

32. Correct Answer: (B) involves Gerund Subject

Gerund phrase *Managing international supply chains* is singular, requiring **involves**.

33. Correct Answer: (B) examines Additive Phrase

accompanied by... is an additive phrase. Subject is *lead investigator* (singular), requiring **examines**.

34. Correct Answer: (B) is Academic Field

Subjects ending in -ics (Mathematics, Physics) are singular, requiring **is**.

35. Correct Answer: (B) are Either...Or Rule

Verb agrees with closest subject *technicians* (plural), requiring **are**.

36. Correct Answer: (B) belong Indefinite Pronoun

Many is always plural, requiring plural verb **belong**.

37. Correct Answer: (B) grow Inverted Sentence

True subject is *several rare species* (plural), requiring plural verb **grow**.

38. Correct Answer: (B) has Collective Noun

jury acts as a unified body, requiring singular verb **has**.

39. Correct Answer: (B) requires Gerund Subject

Gerund phrase *Developing new renewable energy technologies* is singular, requiring **requires**.

40. Correct Answer: (B) was Every...And Every

Subjects modified by *every* are singular even when joined by 'and', requiring singular verb **was**.